

U.S. Embassy La Paz, Bolivia

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Water Shortages

November 23, 2016

The U.S. Embassy in La Paz alerts U.S. citizens traveling and residing in Bolivia to the water shortages and rationing affecting La Paz, Cochabamba, Sucre, Potosi, Oruro, and other cities in the Altiplano. The embassy recommends taking the following precautions in the event of continued water scarcity, civil unrest due to water scarcity, or other unforeseen security and health threats resulting from lack of water.

All U.S. citizens residing in areas facing severe water scarcity should follow Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines and have at least three days of bottled water on hand. FEMA recommends two (2) liters per person, per day.

All U.S. citizens should plan for the possibility of having to relocate due to water scarcity. Ensure your passports are valid. Maintain valid passports, birth certificates and other important documents, along with changes of clothes and essential items ready in the event of emergency travel. Consider in-country, regional and U.S. options for relocation should the water situation deteriorate further.

Beware of civil unrest. Plan your evacuation routes. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Avoid areas where demonstrations are taking place and exercise caution when in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

For further information:

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and [Bolivia Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in *Bolivia*, located at Avenida Arce 2780 at +591 2 216 8000, 8:00am – 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and

8:00am – 12:00pm on Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +591 27 153-3713, or +591-2-216-8500.

- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).